

Annual Report

AS TO THE

SANITARY CONDITION

OF THE

Depwade Rural District

FOR THE YEAR




FREDERICK N. H. MAIDMENT,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

HARLESTON :

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The Annual Report

For the Year **1919** of

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

TO THE DEPWADE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

HARLESTON,

March, 1920.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my sixth Annual Report upon your Sanitary District.

The population of your district in the census 1911, was 19,934, this is now estimated at 18,684.

The physical characters of the area of 79,742 acres of which your district is composed is that of flat or slightly undulating land, sparsely but fairly evenly populated. The subsoil is heavy clay, with certain areas having a substratum of gravel, lying on chalk. The river Waveney forms the southern boundry of the area. The occupations of the community of the district are almost entirely dependent upon agriculture.

Physical
Features

The amount of Poor Law Relief for the year throughout the District is £2941 19. 6.

POOR LAW

Hospital

There is no hospital or sanatorium accommodation in the district excepting for one small "emergency" operating room at Harleston.

Water Supply

There is no public water supply in your district; Harleston is the only place of sufficient size to merit the consideration of a proper supply of water from mains. The larger houses and factories obtain good water from deep wells and borings. The cottages in the outlying villages depend largely upon ponds and pits. At Alburgh, where this circumstance has been for a long time very acutely felt, and recently again represented to you, there have been made plans to alleviate some of the difficulties by constructing two wells. Five samples of water from wells have been analysed and three of these passed as potable, and two referred for cleaning:—

1 at Tacolnestone.

1 at Wortwell.

2 at Rushall.

1 at Long Stratton.

Sewers

Harleston. These have been repaired and where the sewerage discharges has been thoroughly cleaned out.

Pulham St. Mary. Part of the Sewer here in the Main Street has been taken up, and relayed with 9-in. glazed socketted pipes.

Pulham Market. The piped Sewer near the Rectory has been repaired, and the open Sewer at Station Road has been cleaned out.

Long Stratton. The open Sewer here has been thoroughly cleaned out.

Dickleburgh. The open Sewer here has been piped with 6-in. glazed pipes for a distance of 150 yards and having manholes at convenient places. The remainder of the open Sewer down to the beck has been thoroughly cleaned out.

There is no system of public scavenging in your district. Refuse is collected by private contract and there is no regular or proper method of disposal in use. I beg to draw your attention to this point as it is particularly necessary in Harleston.

Scavenging

A number of Inspections have been made during the year resulting in many notices being served for such things as :—

Inspections

Structural Repairs.

Improvements and Repairs to Drains.

Constructions of New Earth Closets.

Improvements of Old Privies

All notices have not been fully complied with, owing to a great shortage of labour and materials.

The total number of Privies is 3504, including :—

Pail Closets 938.

Water Closets 292.

The remainder being middens.

These have been served for the following :—

Closing Orders

1 Cottage on Flaxland at Carleton Road.

1 Cottage in the Street at Scole.

2 Cottages in Low Street at Wortwell.

(One of these is still occupied).

Statutory Notices	No Statutory Notices have been served.
Voluntary Closing	One Cottage, Long Stratton.
Demolition Orders	None of these have been served.
Overcrowding	<p>There are several cases of this in the District, but owing to the shortage of Housing Accommodation little can be done to abate, but the following cases have been abated :—</p> <p>Thorpe Abbotts, by woman and 2 children left District.</p> <p>Scole, by daughter and son-in-law moved to Tibenham.</p> <p>Long Stratton, by family moved to a larger house at Wreningham.</p> <p>Roydon, by son moved into lodgings.</p>
Bake Offices	<p>Some of these have been inspected and generally speaking are in a satisfactory condition.</p> <p>3 notices were issued for whitewashing :—</p> <p>1 at Forncett St. Peter.</p> <p>1 at Long Stratton.</p> <p>1 at Harleston.</p>
Slaughter Houses	<p>These are kept in a satisfactory condition.</p> <p>Improvements have been carried out at Mr. H. Snelling's, of Tivetshall, and New Slaughter house, and Licence granted to Mr. H. D. Pestell, of Shelfanger.</p> <p>No public Abattoir has been established in the district.</p>

- 23/5/19. 2 cwts. Dates at Mr. H. Grimble's of Long Stratton. Condemned Foodstuffs
- 18/7/19. Compressed Beef at Mr. H. Grimble's of Long Stratton.
- 11/9/19. Whole Carcase of Beef at Mr. S. A. Fisher's, of Long Stratton.
- 3/10/19. Tinned Meat and Margarine at Mr. H. Grimble's of Long Stratton.
- 25/10/19. Smoked Bacon at International Stores, Harleston.
- Ham at Mr. F. C. Middleton's Harleston.
- Frozen Meat at Mr. Martin's, Harleston.

A number of these have been inspected resulting in improvements to Drainage and Cleanliness.

Dairies and Cow Sheds

Registration has been granted to the following:—

- G. Gowing, Picton Farm, Tharston.
- C. Thurrell, Cudad Farm, Tharston.
- F. Gowing, Hall Farm, Tharston.
- J. Catchpole, Dickleburgh.
- J. Harrison, Cottage Farm, Tasburgh.
- H. Dunthorne, Corner Farm, Forncett St. Peter.
- W. Mace, Dairy Farm, Forncett St. Peter.
- E. Gowing, Firs Farm, Gissing.
- R. T. Barnes, Hall Farm, Long Stratton.
- O. Snelling, Winderness Farm, Wacton.

A scheme has been inaugurated for the regular supply of Milk or equivalent nourishment to necessitous mothers or children. A very complete form has been draw up for the use of the voluntary health representatives in each parish which when completed comes before a select committee for sanction and approval of the grant suggested therein.

Plans Submitted
and Passed

3 Almshouses at Thelveton.
 Alterations to Dwelling House at Dickleburgh.
 „ Old Oak Inn, at Winfarthing.
 New W.C. and Drainage at Morningthorpe.
 Conversion of Wood Huts into a Dwelling House
 at Forncett St. Peter.
 Extention of Butcher's Shop at Earsham.
 Erection of Reading Room at Earsham.
 Addition to Dwelling House at Pulham St. Mary.
 New Porch to Dwelling House at Harleston.

House
Accommodation
under H.W.C.
Acts

1 Hut has been erected and occupied at Long
 Stratton.
 10 Cottages are in the course of erection at
 Harleston.
 8 Cottages are in the course of erection at
 Brockdish.

Schools

The following Schools have been closed on account
 of outbreaks of Epidemic disease :—

Disease.	School.	Period.
Influenza.		
	Thorpe Abbotts.	Feb. 18th—March 7th.
	Hapton.	„ 21st— „ 14th.
	Aslacton.	„ 27th— „ 14th.
	Moulton.	March 3rd—21st.
	Ashwellthorpe.	„ 3rd—14th.
	Burston.	„ „ „
	Wacton.	„ „ „
	Tivetshall.	„ 6th—21st.
	Tibenham.	„ 6th—14th.
	Tasburgh.	„ 21st—April 4th.
	Fersfield.	„ 24th—28th.
	Thelveton.	„ „
	Tharston.	„ 26th—April 11th.

Diphtheria—

Tivetshall.

May 6th—30th.

Measles—

Alburgh.

Oct. 17th—Nov. 11th.

24 Swabs for Diphtheria Bacilli have been taken and 3 Sputa examined for Tubercle Bacilli.

I hereunder give the comparative table of Notifiable diseases for the last 6 years :—

	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919
Diphtheria	8	1	3	14	3	30
Enteric Fever	6	0	0	2	2	0
Erysipelas	8	10	4	2	6	3
Puerperal Fever	2	1	0	1	0	0
Scarlet Fever	62	79	4	7	8	6
Pulmonary						
Tuberculosis	16	10	12	12	9	19
	102	101	23	38	28	58

Of the mortality of Notifiable diseases :—

Pulmonary Tuberculosis—10 deaths.

Brockdish 1.	Pulham Market 1.
Gissing 1.	Pulham Mary 1.
Hapton 1.	Scole 1.
Harleston 1.	Wortwell 1.
Morningthorpe 1.	Union. 1.

Other forms of Tuberculosis—4 deaths.

Ashwell Thorpe 1.	Carleton Rode 1.
Bunwell 1.	Wortwell 1.

Pneumonia—11 deaths.

Dickleburgh 1.	Earsham 1.
Fundenhall 1.	Harleston 1.
•Norfolk & Norwich Hospital 1.	
Pulham Market 1.	Pulham Mary 2.
Tasburgh 2.	Wacton 1.

Diphtheria—1 death at Tivetshall.

Of other Infectious Diseases :—

Influenza—9 deaths.

Bressingham 1.	Bunwell 1.
Burston 2.	Earsham 1.
Tharston 1.	Tibenham 2.
Union 1.	

Whooping Cough—1 death at Moulton.

Of Notifiable diseases I record—

Diphtheria 30, at—

Brockdish 1.	Fundenhall 1.
Moulton 1	Pulham Mary 1.
Shelfanger 1.	Long Stratton 1.
Tacolestone 1.	Tibenham 1.
Tivetshall 21.	Wacton 1.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis 19, at—

Brockdish 1.	Carleton Rode 1.
Fundenhall 1.	Gissing 1.
Harleston 7.	Scole 1.
Tivetshall 3.	Union 2.
Wortwell 2.	

Scarlet Fever 6, at—

Carleton Rode 1.	Gissing 3.
Harleston 1.	Long Stratton 1.

Pneumonia 11, at—

Ashwellthorpe	1	Bunwell	3.
Carleton Rode	2	Forncett	1.
Harleston	1.	Moulton	1.
Shelfanger	1.	Tibenham.	1.

Anthrax—I case at Tivetshall.

Anterior Poliomyelitis—I case at Denton.

The outbreak of Diphtheria among the children attending Tivetshall School was eventually traced to a carrier, a child with the bacilli in her nose.

Special attention might here be drawn to the fact that the Council supply Diphtheria Antitoxin free of charge on application to the Medical Officer of Health.

The origin of the disease in the case of Anterior Poliomyelitis was not determinable.

One case of Anthrax occurring at Tivetshall was traced to the source of infection, viz :—A shaving brush purchased from among a number which arrived in this country from Japan, which were carrying the causal organism.

Under the Compulsory Notification of Measles and German Measles which has recently terminated, the following were Notified.

Measles 99.

German Measles—6.

Among the Notifications of Malaria and Dysentery there is no case which is not a definite recurrent attack, the primary disease having been contracted abroad.

Of Epidemics not coming under the Notifiable diseases have occurred—

Mumps at—

Winfarthing in March.

Measles at—

Alburgh in October.

Pulham Mary in November.

Pulham Market in December.

Notices for the information of those requiring treatment for Venereal Disease at the Norwich Clinic have been posted throughout the district. No applications have been received however to my knowledge.

Disinfections

These have been carried out as under:—

For Diptheria.

5 at Tivetshall St. Mary.	1 at Tibenham.
10 „ Tivetshall St.	1 „ Brockdish.
Margaret.	1 „ Shelfanger.
1 at Tacolnestone.	1 „ Fundenhall.
1 „ Wacton.	1 „ Stratton St. Mary.
1 „ Pulham Market.	1 „ Moulton.

Total 24.

For Scarlet Fever.

1 at Harleston.	1 at Stratton St. Mary.
1 „ Gissing.	

Total 3.

For Tuberculosis.

1 at Harleston.

For Influenza.

1 at Bunwell.

The number of Births registered in the district is 309 and the Birth-rate 16.53. I here give the comparative table for the last six years, Births

Year.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1914	168	210	378
1915	186	187	373
1916	163	170	333
1917	165	142	307
1918	164	145	309
1919	156	153	309

It is in my opinion impracticable to run an effective centre for this purpose as the District is so scattered. A few weighing centres have however started doing good work, and Maternity work generally is assuming a more satisfactory character. Infant Welfare Centre

Of the transferable deaths—

9 occurred at the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital.

Myocarditis 2.
Pneumonia 3.
Carcinoma 1.
Cardiac Failure 1.
Premature Birth 1.
Peritonitis 1.

4 at Hellesdon—

Senility 3.
Pneumonia 1.

1 at Melton Asylum—

Tuberculous Peritonitis.

2 at Bethel Hospital —

Cerebral Hemorrhage.
Broncho Pneumonia.

Of the 259 deaths there were Males 118. Females 141.

I give a table of the Cancer mortalities for the past six years.

Year.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1914	14	12	26
1915	13	20	33
1916	9	16	25
1917	11	15	26
1918	12	13	25
1919	9	17	26

Of the 26 cases the distribution of the disease was as follows—

Tonsil 1.	Ovary 1.	Bowel 3.
Liver 3.	Stomach 4.	Colon 2.
Spinal Cord 1.	Uterus 1.	Chin 1.
Bladder 2.	Rectum 1.	Tongue 1.
Breast 3.	Glands 1.	Humerus 1.

Of Violent Deaths—6 cases.

Drowning 1.	Falls 2.
Run over by Cart 2.	Scalds 1.

Of Suicide—Nil.

No action has been taken by you under the “Sale of Food and Drugs Act.”

I feel I must thank Mr. Bowden, your Sanitary Inspector for the excellent manner in which he conducts his duties, and the care and thoroughness he bestows upon them. He has been handicapped owing these last few months, by heavy calls upon his time in connection with the New Housing Scheme.

Thanking you, Ladies and Gentlemen for the
courtesy you have at all times extended to me,

I have the honour to remain,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

FREDERICK N. H. MAIDMENT,

M.B., B.S., (*Lond.*) F.R.C.S. (*Edin.*) L.R.C.P. &C.

Medical Officer of Health,

Depwade Rural District Council.

TABLE 1.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1919.

DEPWADE RURAL DISTRICT.

YEAR 1919.

Population estimated to middle of each					
year	...	...	...	...	18684
Births, Number		...	..	...	309
Births, Rate	...	...	...	...	16.53
Total Deaths, Number	...	...	...	...	259
Total Deaths, Rate (on 17,963 population)	...				14.64
Transferable deaths of non-residents in					
district	...	..	...	...	12
Transferable deaths of residents not regis-					
tered in district			...	..	31
Nett deaths belonging to district under 1					
year	...	...	...	...	25
Do. rate per 1,000 nett births	...		...	...	80.90

Total population at all ages, 18,684 in 1919.

Area of district in acres (land and inland water) 79,742.

Total families or separate occupiers, 4,869.

TABLE II. CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1919.
DEPWADE RURAL DISTRICT.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	Number of Cases notified.								Total cases notified in each locality (e.g. Parish or Ward) of the District.							Total Cases Removed to Hospital.
	At Ages†—Years.								1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
	At all Ages.	Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 and upwards.								
									Eastern District.				Western District.				Workhouse.
Pneumonia	11	..	1	4	..	2	2	2	1	..	..	..	10	..	..	..
Small-pox .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dysentery	4	..	..	..	1	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Diphtheria (including Membranous-croup)	30	..	5	16	6	3	..	1	3	..	..	..	27	..	..	..
Erysipelas	3	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	2	..	..	..	3	..	..	..
Scarlet fever	6	..	3	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	..	..
Enteric fever .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Enteric fever .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Anthrax	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Puerperal fever .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Poliomyelitis	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	3	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	2	..	..	..
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	19	..	..	4	5	8	2	..	11	..	..	..	6	..	2	..
Other forms of Tuberculosis	5	1	..	1	2	1	..	1	2	..	..	..	3	..	..	..
Malaria	14	..	..	..	4	9	1	..	7	..	..	..	7	..	..	..
Totals	97	4	10	28	20	26	6	3	31	..	..	..	64	..	2	nil

TABLE III.—CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT DEATH DURING YEAR 1919
DEPWADE RURAL DISTRICT.

CAUSES OF DEATH.				NETT DEATHS AT THE SUBJOINED AGES OF "RESIDENTS" WHETHER OCCURRING WITHIN OR WITHOUT THE DISTRICT.	
				All Ages.	
				Males.	Females
All Causes	{	Males 118	Females 141		
Enteric Fever	..	..	..	...	...
Small-pox	..	..	..	...	...
Measles	..	..	..	...	...
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	...
Whooping-cough	..	..	..	1	...
Diphtheria and Croup	..	..	..	1	...
Influenza	..	..	..	6	3
Erysipelas	..	..	..	...	...
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	..	..	..	6	4
Tuberculous Meningitis	..	..	..	...	1
Other tuberculous disease	..	..	..	2	..
Cancer, malignant disease	..	..	..	9	17
Rheumatic Fever	..	..	..	...	1
Meningitis	..	..	..	...	...
Organic Heart Disease	..	..	..	19	26
Bronchitis	..	..	..	12	14
Pneumonia (all forms)	..	..	..	1	8
Other diseases of respiratory organs	..	..	..	3	5
Diarrhœa and Enteritis	..	..	..	1	1
Appendicitis and Typhlitis	..	..	..	...	1
Cirrhosis of liver	..	..	..	...	...
Alcoholism	..	..	..	..	...
Nephritis and Bright's Disease	...	..	..	5	3
Puerperal Fever	..	..	..	...	1
Other accidents and diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition	..	..	..	...	...
Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth	..	..	..	8	3
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide	..	..	..	4	2
Suicide	..	..	..	...	...
Other Defined Diseases	..	..	..	39	49
Diseases ill-defined or unknown	..	..	..	1	2
				118	141

TABLE IV.—DEPWADE RURAL DISTRICT.

INFANT MORTALITY—1919.

Nett Deaths from stated Causes at various ages under One Year of Age.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Under 1 Week.	1—2 Weeks	2—3 Weeks.	3—4 Weeks.	Total under 4 weeks.	1—3 Months	3—6 Months	6—9 Months.	9—12 Months	Total Deaths under One Year.
Small-pox										
Chicken-pox										
Measles... ..										
Scarlet Fever										
Whooping Cough ... ..	...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Croup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuberculous Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Abdominal Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningitis(not <i>Tuberculous</i>)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Convulsions ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Laryngitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bronchitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	1	5
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Diarrhœa ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteritis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	2
Gastritis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Syphilis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Rickets ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Suffocation, overlying	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Injury at Birth ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Atelectasis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Congenital Malformations	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	2
Premature Birth	6	1	...	...	7	...	...	...	...	7
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus	2	1	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	3
Other causes ... ..	...	2	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	2
Totals	9	4			13	6	1	2	3	25

Nett Births in the Year—

Nett Deaths in the Year—

Males 156. Females 153.

Males 15. Females 10.

Illegitimate—Male 15, Female 14.

